

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 158661

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, SHUM, PFOR

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR CAUAS' CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY
TODMAN, JULY 7.

1. AMBASSADOR CAUAS CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN
ON AFTERNOON OF JULY 7. HE DELIVERED A SUMMARY OF THE
POINTS THAT ARE INCLUDED IN A SPEECH PRESIDENT PINOCHET
WILL GIVE ON JULY 9. HE ASKED THAT THE MATTER BE TREATED
CONFIDENTIALLY AND BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE
SECRETARY.

2. THE TEXT OF THE AMBASSADOR'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION
FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC WILL ADDRESS THE
NATION ON SATURDAY, JULY 9. HE WILL INFORM OF THE
FUNDAMENTAL STEPS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE IN ORDER
TO PROCEED WITH THE INSTITUTIONAL PROCESS OF THE COUNTRY.

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HE WILL EXPLAIN THAT SEPTEMBER 11TH NOT ONLY MEANT THE
OVERTHROW OF AN ILLEGITIMATE AND UNSUCCESSFUL GOVERNMENT,
BUT THE END OF A POLITICAL REGIME - INSTITUTIONALLY
EXHAUSTED - AND THE CONSEQUENT AIM TO BUILD A NEW ONE.

HE ADDS THAT OUR DUTY IS TO SHAPE A NEW DEMOCRACY THAT
WILL BE AUTHORITATIVE, PROTECTED, INTEGRATED AND

TECHNICAL, WITH AN AUTHENTIC SOCIAL PARTICIPATION.

THE TASK HAS TO BE GRADUAL IN ORDER TO AVOID ON THE ONE HAND THE STAGNATION WHICH SOONER OR LATER LEADS THE SOCIAL PROCESS TO VIOLENT OUTBREAKS AND ON THE OTHER HAND A PRECIPITATION THAT WOULD LEAD TO A RAPID DESTRUCTION OF ALL OUR EFFORTS, THE RETURN TO THE OLD REGIME, WITH THE SAME MEN AND THE SAME PROBLEMS, LEADING SOON TO A CHAOS SIMILAR OR WORSE THAN THE ONE THE COUNTRY LIVED THROUGH DURING THE MARXIST ADMINISTRATION.

THIS GRADUAL PROCESS HAS THREE STAGES: RECUPERATION, TRANSITION AND NORMALCY. THESE STEPS ARE DEFINED BY THE DIFFERENT ROLES PLAYED BY THE ARMED FORCES ON THE ONE HAND AND THE CIVILIANS ON THE OTHER.

IN THE RECUPERATION STAGE, THE POLITICAL POWER HAD TO BE ASSUMED BY THE ARMED FORCES WITH CIVILIAN COOPERATION, WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE AS WE ADVANCE TOWARD THE TRANSITION STAGE.

IN THE TRANSITION STAGE THE ESSENCE OF THE POLITICAL POWER WILL REMAIN IN THE HANDS OF THE ARMED FORCES BUT ALL ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE SHARED WITH THE CIVILIANS, LEADING FROM COOPERATION TO PARTICIPATION.

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FINALLY, IN THE NORMALCY STAGE, THE POLITICAL POWER WILL BE EXERCISED DIRECTLY AND BASICALLY BY CIVILIANS, LEAVING TO THE ARMED FORCES THE CONSTITUTIONAL ROLE OF PROTECTION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL BASES AND NATIONAL SECURITY IN ITS MOST AMPLE AND DECISIVE MODERN PROJECTIONS.

THE PRESENT STAGE IS ONE OF RECUPERATION. DURING THIS PERIOD THE CONSTITUTIONAL ACTS WILL BE COMPLETED. THIS STAGE WILL LAST UNTIL 1979-1980.

DURING THE TRANSITIONAL STAGE THE CONSTITUTIONAL POWER WILL CONTINUE TO BE EXERCISED BY THE GOVERNMENT JUNTA, ALWAYS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE COUNCIL. THE LEGISLATIVE POWER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL TRADITION, MUST BE DUAL: THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC AND A LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER. THE CHAMBER WILL BE FORMED AS FOLLOWS: ONE THIRD OF ITS MEMBERS WILL BE PERSONS WHO ARE OUTSTANDING IN THEIR OWN RIGHT OR

APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT, AND THE OTHER TWO-THIRDS WILL BE REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES.

FOR A SECOND PERIOD OF FROM FOUR TO FIVE YEARS, SUCH
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE ELECTED BY POPULAR VOTE.
ONCE THE CHAMBER IS FORMED DURING ITS SECOND PERIOD -
WITH TWO-THIRDS OF ITS MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE -
THE CHAMBER WILL DESIGNATE THE PERSON WHO, AS OF THAT
DATE, WILL BECOME THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC FOR A
PERIOD OF SIX YEARS. UNTIL SUCH TIME, THE EXECUTIVE
POWER WILL CONTINUE TO BE EXERCISED BY THE PRESIDENT
OF THE JUNTA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AUTHORITY WITH WHICH
HE HAS BEEN EMPOWERED. SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE
NOMINATION OF THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, WHICH
IMPLIES THE TRANSITION TO NORMALCY, THE NEW CONSTITUTION
WILL HAVE TO BE APPROVED AND PROMULGATED. END QUOTE. VANCE

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